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Mechanicam vero duplicem Veteres constituerunt: Rationalem quae per Demonstrationes accurate procedit, & Practicam. Ad practicam spectant Artes omnes Manuales, a quibus utique Mechanica nomen mutuata est. Cum autem Artifices parum accurate operari soleant, fit ut Mechanica omnis a Geometria ita distinguatur, ut quicquid accuratum sit ad Geometriam referatur, quicquid minus accuratum ad Mechanicam. Attamen errores non sunt Artis sed Artificum. Qui minus accurate operatur, imperfectior est Mechanicus, & si quis accuratissime operari posset, hic foret Mechanicus omnium perfectissimus.

NEWTON

La généralité que j'embrasse, au lieu d'éblouir nos lumieres, nous découvrira plutôt les véritables loix de la Nature dans tout leur éclat, & on y trouvera des raisons encore plus fortes, d'en admirer la beauté & la simplicité.

EULER

... ut proinde his paucis consideratis tota haec materia redacta sit ad puram Geometriam, quod in physicis & mechanicis unice desideratum.

LEIBNIZ

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CONTENTS OF VOLUME 115

ADIMURTHI & S. L. YADAVA, Existence and Nonexistence of Positive Radial Solutions of Neumann Problems with Critical Sobolev Exponents	275
AVILES, P. & Y. GIGA, Variational Integrals on Mappings of Bounded Variation and their Lower Semicontinuity	201
BAILLIEUL, J. & M. LEVI, Constrained Relative Motions in Rotational Mechanics	101
BERETTA, E. & M. VOGELIUS, An Inverse Problem Originating from Magnetohydrodynamics	137
CASEY, J. & P. M. NAGHDI, On the Lagrangian Description of Vorticity	1
GIGA, Y., see AVILES, P.	201
GREENBERG, J. M. & M. RASCLE, Time-Periodic Solutions to Systems of Conservation Laws	395
KINDERLEHRER, D. & P. PEDREGAL, Characterizations of Young Measures Generated by Gradients	329
KNOPS, R. J., S. RIONERO & R. RUSSO, Stability and Related Results in Linear Elastodynamics on Unbounded Regions	179
LEVI, M., see BAILLIEUL, J.	101
LEWIS, D., see SIMO, J. C.	15
LI, Y.Y., On Uniformly Rotating Stars	367
LIM, C. C., Binary Trees, Symplectic Matrices and the Jacobi Coordinates of Celestial Mechanics	153
MARSDEN, J. E., see SIMO, J. C.	15, 61
MCCARTHY, M. F., Shock Waves in a Particulate Suspension	167
NAGHDI, P. M., see CASEY, J.	1
OELSCHLÄGER, K., On the Connection Between Hamiltonian Many-Particle Systems and the Hydrodynamical Equations	297

PEDREGAL, P., see KINDERLEHRER D.	329
PODIO-GUIDUGLI, P. & G. VERGARA CAFFARELLI, Extreme Elastic Deformations	311
POSBERGH, T. A., see SIMO, J. C.	61
RASCLE, M., see GREENBERG, J. M.	395
RIONERO, S., see KNOPS, R. J.	179
RUSSO, R., see KNOPS, R. J.	179
SIMO, J. C., D. LEWIS & J. E. MARSDEN, Stability of Relative Equilibria. Part I: The Reduced Energy-Momentum Method	15
SIMO, J. C., T. A. POSBERGH & J. E. MARSDEN, Stability of Relative Equilibria. Part II: Application to Nonlinear Elasticity	61
YADAVA, S. L., see ADIMURTHI	275
YANAGIDA, E., Uniqueness of Positive Radial Solutions of $\Delta u + g(r)u + h(r)u^p = 0$ in R^n	257
VERGARA CAFFARELLI, G., see PODIO-GUIDUGLI, P.	311
VOGELIUS, M., see BERETTA, E.	137